The Next Generation Registration Directory Service (RDS) PDP Working Group has been tasked with defining the policies associated with an improved RDS that will meet the (domain name) needs of the existing global Internet and accommodate changes already anticipated, should it be determined that a new RDS is required. The core problem that will need to be solved in defining this policy will be resolving the tension among the varied and competing views of stakeholders on key issues while accounting for rules, regulations, and laws that vary widely from region to region.

Consumers, the domain name industry, governments, law enforcement bodies, intellectual property owners, security practitioners, registrants, end-users, and other stakeholders all claim to have interests in an RDS system that contains accurate and complete data, and which is secure, resilient, accessible, auditable, and of sufficient performance. These stakeholders have varying requirements regarding the particular data that should be collected and the conditions under which it should be viewed. For example, there are some parties (be they registrants or other entities) who desire anonymity or pseudonymity and their requirements regarding data collection and data access may be at odds with those of other stakeholders.

In order to support various stakeholders within the RDS fairly and pragmatically, with their varied priorities, requires the Working Group to review the purpose of the RDS that supports it. This understanding will enable the Working Group to satisfy its charter.

Note that this problem statement is meant as a tool to aid in discussion, consistent with but not a constraint on the Working Group and its Charter.